

CLAIMS

1. A golf ball having an identification device (10) embedded therein, the identification device comprising a coded element (12) and an aerial (14), wherein the coded element and/or the aerial is/are associated with a resilient member (16) arranged to dampen mechanical shocks thereto.
2. A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the identification device (10) is a radio frequency identification device.
3. A golf ball according to claims 1 or 2, wherein the coded element is mounted in or on a plate (11), with the aerial being formed by a coil arranged on one face of the plate and the resilient member being arranged on the opposite face of the plate.
4. A golf ball according to any preceding claim, wherein the resilient member is in the form of a diaphragm (16) and the coded element is a chip (12) which is connected to the diaphragm.
5. A golf ball according to claim 4, wherein the aerial (14) is separately connected to the diaphragm.
6. A golf ball according to any preceding claim wherein the resilient member (16) is made of such a material that it can serve as a heat sink.
7. A golf ball according to claim 6, wherein the material is steel.
8. A method of manufacturing a golf ball incorporating an identification device (10), the method including the steps of moulding the identification device in a disc or capsule member (20), placing the member (20) between two parts of a ball core (35), adhering the core parts to each other around the member (20), and then

subjecting the thus-formed core to further processing steps, including providing it with a covering.

9. A method according to claim 8 wherein the core parts are symmetrical.
10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the core parts form a core (35) of cuboid shape and are subsequently processed to have a spherical shape (35').
11. A method according to any of claims 8 to 10, wherein means (16) for protecting the identification device from the effects of impacts are also moulded in the disc member.